



**HALF TON THIRTY-SOMETHING**  
**THE STORY OF THE 900-LB MAN**  
**WRITTEN BY ARTHUR BULLOCK**

**Ricky Naputi was born as Richard Junior Naputi on June 20, 1973 in Mangilao, Guam. He was married to his wife Cheryl Naputi in 2004. He weighed an astonishing 900 lbs, and became the world's heaviest man on earth. Because of his weight, Ricky Naputi has been bullied twice at school during his childhood years. He was called all kinds of bad names like fatso, piggy, jumbo, fat boy, and fatty. Ricky has been stranded in his bed in a small-rented residential apartment. “The last time I got out and enjoyed myself was seven years ago. I miss feeling the sun on my face. I miss showering, and feeling the water run down my body.” Ricky says. Ricky Naputi missed out on going out in public, like eating in restaurants, grocery shopping, taking showers, going to**

**concerts, and going outside because of his weight. Ricky's wife Cheryl helped bathe him in his bed, cooked and went grocery shopping. Ricky consumed more than an estimated 10,000 calories a day, four times the healthy intake. Ricky Naputi tracked down Angie Flores, an obesity advocate who decided to fly to Guam and help him get the medical help he desperately needed. Dr. Duc Vuong, a bariatric surgeon who specializes in health problems in morbidly obese patients, was also invited to Ricky's apartment. In 2010, Ricky Naputi weighed 775 lbs which was too much for surgery to be safe. When Ricky was a little boy, he was at an average size of a two-year-old. “Ricky says, see what you did to me? You fed me the Chamorro way.” says Ava,**

**Ricky Naputi's mother. As Ricky got older as a tween, his weight constantly exploded to 200 lbs. During his high school years, Ricky's weight ballooned up to 375 lbs. Although he suffered from deep depression, he was eating more for comfort, even though he was addicted to junk food. Ricky Naputi worked at a strip club as a bouncer. He fell into bad company and started taking narcotics. After laying off the narcotics, his weight exploded more. He was 500 lbs at 30 years old. "I stopped using drugs and then I ended up starting to eat more." says Ricky. When Ricky decided to marry his wife Cheryl, he weighed more than 700 lbs. "When Ricky and I got together, he was already a big man." says Cheryl. "I'm so depressed. I've been stuck in this**

**bed every single day. Every single day, I can't even get up and walk. I can't even shower and can't even do nothing for myself." says Ricky. He asked someone if he wanted to fly to Texas to have weight loss surgery, but he was too big for surgery. In mid-2012, Australian surgeon Dr. George Hopkins flew to Guam to meet Ricky and Cheryl. He wanted to give Ricky the medical help he desperately needed. During the same year, Ricky was barely losing weight and not eating lots of junk food. Ricky Naputi committed suicide by overdosing on numerous medications on November 10, 2012. No autopsy was carried out. The official cause of death was morbid obesity. He was also cremated. He was 39 years old.**

**SPECIAL THANKS TO**  
**Ava (Ricky Naputi's Mother)**  
**Daniel (Ricky Naputi's Father)**  
**Tammy (Ricky Naputi's sister)**  
**And the people of the cities of Guam**



1,200 x 900

## **IN LOVING MEMORY OF RICKY NAPUTI**

**(June 20, 1973-November 10, 2012)**

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